



# NEWS RELEASE

## Rural Development

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### **GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW PAVILION AT JIMMIE DAVIS TABERNACLE Residents of Jackson Parish to Enjoy New Community Facility**

JONESBORO, February 20, 2004 – Ground was officially broken today for a new open-air pavilion at the Jimmie Davis Tabernacle near Jonesboro. Congressman Rodney Alexander, Louisiana's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, was joined by local, state, and federal officials to celebrate the occasion. Federal grant dollars, along with a substantial investment by the Jimmie Davis Tabernacle will fund construction of this facility. The new pavilion will provide much-needed space for community meetings and events for the residents of Jackson Parish.

"USDA Rural Development is providing a \$95,500 Community Facilities Grant to construct the pavilion—in addition to \$44,500 provided by the Jimmie Davis Tabernacle," said Michael B. Taylor, State Director for USDA Rural Development in Louisiana.

The Rural Development Community Facilities Program enables rural communities to develop essential community facilities for public use—facilities such as schools, libraries, childcare facilities, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings, and transportation. "Our goal is to help rural residents enjoy the same quality of life as their city neighbors," said Taylor.

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices, located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting USDA Rural Development's web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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